

Application No. 09/239,907
Reply to Advisory Action dated March 25, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-20 are currently pending. Claims 1, 10, 11 and 20 have been amended. Claims 2 and 12 were previously cancelled. Applicants conducted an interview with the Examiner on April 24, 2003. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing and conducting the interview.

Corrections to Address The Examiner's Objections

The Examiner is thanked for withdrawing the objections to the specification.

Response to Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-11 and 13-20 as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by U.S. Patent No. 5,959,659 issued to Dokic, et al ("Dokic"). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are not anticipated by Dokic. In a telephone interview on April 24, 2003, the Examiner requested that Applicants submit a formal response highlighting the differences between the claimed invention and Dokic. Applicants have amended the independent claims to clarify the claimed invention. No change in claim scope is intended.

In Dokic, the data stream is stored in two circular buffers 200, 202. The digital signal processor 102 processes one of the buffers while the other buffer is loading. The processor 102 extracts a packet identifier from a packet in the buffer being processed and checks a PID lookup table to see whether the packet is a video packet, an audio packet, or a private data packet. When the type of data within the transport packet is determined, the processor 102 transfers the data to the video buffer 206, the audio buffer 208, the private data buffer 210, or discards it. See Dokic at column 7 line 60 to column 8, line 67 and Figure 5.

In contrast, independent claim 1 as amended recites "a memory for storing packet identifiers required by the receiver ... and a third control circuit [that] outputs an address in the memory responsive to a match, wherein the second control circuit accesses the address in the memory to retrieve control information associated with the packet identifier." Independent claims 10, 11 and 20 contain similar language. This is supported by the description of an embodiment on page 10, lines 10-24 of the substitute specification. The control information may be, for example, descrambling keys, other addresses for use by the DMA controller 500, or information for use in generating module control signals.

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Dokic does not disclose a third control circuit that outputs an address that a second control circuit uses to access control information. First, Dokic uses only one control circuit, processor 102, and thus does not output an address from one control circuit to another. Second, the "control information" identified by the Examiner is the PID of the packet itself, which is entirely output by the processor 102, so there is no reason to output any address of any control information. Third, in Dokic the selection of which buffer to process is based solely on timing considerations; a buffer is not selected because it is "responsive to a match." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Dokic is not an anticipating reference.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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